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H.E. Christopher J. LaFleur
Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary
Embassy of the United States of America
376 Jalan Tun Razak
50400 Kuala Lumpur

RELEASED IN FULL

26 June 2007

Your Excellency,

Respect human rights and stop secret CIA detention

I am writing to express my concern about 39 terrorism suspects believed to have been held in secret US custody and whose current whereabouts remain unknown.

These men are victims of enforced disappearance as defined by international law. Secret detention and enforced disappearance are violations of the USA's treaty obligations.

I believe that lasting security and real justice for the victims of terrorism cannot be achieved by placing people in secret locations deprived of the most basic legal safeguards for any detainee. Governments must protect their people from acts of terrorism, but the US programme of secret detention, acknowledged by President George W. Bush on September 2006, is not the way to do this.

The US government must end the use of secret detention, clarify the fate and whereabouts of all people who have been secretly detained, allow them access to their families and to an adequate legal process.

I recall President Bush's repeated assertions that the USA remains committed to the "non-negotiable demands of human dignity", including the rule of law. I urge you to relay my concern to the US administration and to do all in your power to make respect for human rights and the rule of law a reality for all those in US custody and their families.

Yours sincerely,

Name:

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